

STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING

**WASHINGTON BOARD OF REGISTRATION FOR
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS**

MINUTES
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING CONFERENCE CALL
Call in # (360) 357-2903
Pin 17672#

DATE: February 8, 2008

TIME: 9:30 a.m.

LOCATION: **Conference Call**
Department of Licensing
Olympia Washington

Present: Chair Thomas Sherry
Vice Chair James Yap
Secretary Clyde Haase
Member Fred Glick

Absent: None

Also Present: Board Executive Joe Vincent Jr.
Program Manager Lorin Doyle
AAG Martha Lantz

OPEN SESSION.....9:30 AM

1. Call to Order

1.1. Introduction of visitors

No visitors were present.

1.2. Order of Agenda

No changes were made to the agenda.

1.3. Approval of Minutes, October 19, 2007 Meeting

Member Fred Glick made a MOTION to accept the minutes as written. Vice Chair James Yap SECONDED and it was passed by a unanimous vote.

1.4. Review of Communications

No Business

2. Hearings/Rule Adoptions/BAP Appeals/Public Presentations

Mr. Glick asked about the Board's request to Washington Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects (WASLA) at the October 19 meeting. WASLA had not provided information to the Board in support of a Practice Act vs. Title Act.

CLOSED / EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board entered into closed session for adjudicative matters at 9.37 AM.

3. Complaints / Investigations

No Business

4. Legal Issues and / or Deliberation

No business

OPEN SESSION

5. Disciplinary and Investigation Items

The Board returned to open session at 9.49 AM. During closed session, the Board heard Case Manager Sherry's recommendation to close case 2007-03-1300-00LAN with no further action.

Mr. Glick made a MOTION to accept the case manager's recommendation. Secretary Clyde Haase SECONDED and it was passed by a unanimous vote.

6. Assistant Attorney General's Report

Martha Lantz updated the Board on current legislation proposed by the Attorney General's office, specifically changes impacting the Open Public Meetings Act.

She also reported the Office of Financial Management has set up a listserv to notify the public of fee changes related to Initiative 960.

7. Committee Reports

There were no committee reports.

8. Board Administrator's Report

8.1. Board Operations

These reports were provided to the Board:

8.1.1. Statistics – Professions Status Report

8.1.2. Licensing trends

8.2. Administrative Matters/Legislation

Administrator Joe Vincent Jr. updated the Board on the current bills requesting a Landscape Architect practice act: HB 2587 and HB 3170 (same language as HB 2587 except all fee references were removed). Neither bill had been scheduled for a hearing.

The Washington Chapter of the American Institute of Architects (AIA) submitted legislation affecting the architect laws. The bill and its substitute clean up language, expand on experience requirements and require additional business licensing.

A bill requesting regulation of interior design was also introduced this session. A past sunrise review did not recommend regulation and a hearing on February 5 had equal parts support and opposition.

The soil and wetland scientists withdrew their bill and will reintroduce it in 2009.

A new bill asking for a sunrise review for regulation of residential contractors was introduced.

8.2.1. Staff changes

Elizabeth Stancil took a promotion with the Department of Financial Institutions starting February 1. Kezia Prater transitioned to part-time as of January 1, and will continue during the recruitment and training period to fill her position.

8.3. Business and Professions Division

8.4. Department of Licensing

8.5. Financial Report

8.5.1. On the financial report, dues to the Council of Landscape Architecture Registration Boards (CLARB) are coded under employee professional development.

8.6. Board / Staff Travel

8.6.1. Chair Tom Sherry and Mr. Vincent will attend the CLARB Spring meeting. Mr. Vincent accepted an appointment to CLARB's communications committee by CLARB President Cleve Turner.

Mr. Sherry and Mr. Vincent will attend the regional pre-Spring meeting webcast.

8.7. Review of applications approved for licensure

8.8. Other items

9. Old Business

9.1. Rule Changes

9.1.1. Draft - Stamp/Seal Use Draft

9.1.2. Rule Draft - Professional conduct

The changes to the stamp and seal language are ready to be submitted. The professional conduct section has been compared with the Uniform Regulation of Business & Professions Act (URBP), and will be ready soon.

The next phase of the rule process is to schedule a public comment period, and once those are collected and reviewed, the Board will have the opportunity to adopt the rules at a future meeting.

9.2. Review of "Guidelines for Officials" publication

Mr. Glick and Mr. Yap reviewed the landscape architect language in the publication. Their major concern was the references to "practicing as a landscape architect" given the current law regulates title use.

Ms. Lantz clarified while there is no jurisdiction to force individuals to become licensed, once the individual is licensed, he or she is under the Board's jurisdiction to regulate and is bound by the URBP.

BOARD ASSIGNMENT: Mr. Glick and Mr. Yap will draft language describing the role of landscape architects, including overlapping qualifications with other professions (e.g. grading and drainage) and those characteristics unique to the landscape architect profession. They will also provide edits to the current language in the guideline publication.

9.3. Board review of applications

9.4. Qualifying education and experience

Mr. Vincent asked the Board to consider WAC 308-13-020. The current rule language allows candidates to qualify for the exam only under the supervision of a landscape architect and does not accept related experience under the guidance of a licensee in an allied profession.

The Board members expressed concern about candidates investing time and money in pursuit of the profession without understanding the full scope. They discussed options for oral examinations/interviews before qualifying a candidate to sit for the exam; internship or apprenticeship opportunities; concerns about the impact of adding an additional requirement on applicants taking the tests in Washington; and possible risks of having someone outside the profession evaluate the qualifications of a candidate.

Mr. Vincent reminded the Board the qualification review determines whether a candidate can sit for an exam that tests for minimum competency. He also noted the rule currently limits qualifying education.

Mr. Glick asked to continue this discussion at the next meeting, when the Board meets in person and has the documents with them.

Mr. Vincent suggested part of the next meeting to be used as a work session to review the rules associated with qualifying education and experience.

10. New Business

10.1. Establish regular board meetings

Ms. Lantz recommended the Board amend 308-13-010 to identify board meetings as regular meetings. Currently the Board has one regular meeting a year per WAC and the rest of the meetings are special meetings. Regular meetings are published annually with the Code Reviser's office, have less stringent notification requirements and have some agenda flexibility.

Mr. Yap made a MOTION to establish regular quarterly meetings. Mr. Haase SECONDED and it was passed by a unanimous vote.

STAFF ASSIGNMENT: Staff will draft language to amend WAC 308-13-010 to include regular quarterly meetings and will submit it with the other rule changes.

11. Other Business

11.1. Review of master action item list

11.2. Action items from this meeting

Action items from this meeting will be added to the master list.

11.3. Agenda items for next meeting

11.4. Any other business

No Business

12. Adjournment – 11.47 AM.